

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6916

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to provide assistance to individuals and households that are required to evacuate their primary residences as a result of a major disaster.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

Mr. JEFFERSON (for himself and Mr. MELANCON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to provide assistance to individuals and households that are required to evacuate their primary residences as a result of a major disaster.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. EVACUATION ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS**
4 **AND HOUSEHOLDS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford
6 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.

1 5170 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **“SEC. 426. EVACUATION ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS AND**
4 **HOUSEHOLDS.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide as-
6 sistance to individuals and households that, pursuant to
7 a mandatory evacuation order issued by a State or local
8 government as a result of a major disaster, are required
9 to evacuate their primary residences for a period of 2 or
10 more days.

11 “(b) FORM OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance authorized
12 under this section shall be provided in the form of reim-
13 bursement for subsistence expenses incurred by an indi-
14 vidual or household during the period of a mandatory
15 evacuation. Assistance provided under this section for the
16 members of a household shall be provided to the head of
17 the household.

18 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—

19 “(1) MAXIMUM PERIOD OF ASSISTANCE.—As-
20 sistance authorized under this section may be pro-
21 vided for expenses incurred during a period of not
22 more than 7 days.

23 “(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—As-
24 sistance authorized under this section for individuals
25 and households evacuated to a locality may not ex-

1 ceed the amount of the per diem allowance estab-
2 lished for the locality under subchapter I of chapter
3 57 of title 5, United States Code.

4 “(d) DATE OF ELIGIBILITY.—Assistance authorized
5 under this section with respect to a major disaster may
6 be provided for expenses incurred before the date of the
7 declaration of the disaster.

8 “(e) SUBSISTENCE DEFINED.—In this section, the
9 term ‘subsistence’ has the meaning given that term in sec-
10 tion 5701 of title 5, United States Code.”.

11 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this
12 section shall apply with respect to a major disaster de-
13 clared by the President on or after September 1, 2008.

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